



### **Davis Cartage Expands Owosso Charter Township Facility**

Davis Cartage has added 60,000 square feet of warehousing space to their facility on Chestnut St in Owosso Charter Township. This expansion represents the largest increase in building space in the county for 2023. The project will see a total of \$2.7M invested into Shiawassee County.

### **J & J Ag Equipment Expands in Vernon Township**

J&J Ag Equipment, a fast growing ecommerce provider of late model and antique tractor parts their business to a Durand Rd building in Vernon Township. The company has expanded their operations to include refurbished and remanufactured parts in addition to the sales of new old stock.

### **Sonoco Expansion Supported by MEDC Job Creation Grant**

Sonoco, a manufacturer of foam products for the automotive industry in the City of Owosso, added 27 new jobs in 2023. The company was awarded a \$162,000 grant from the Michigan Economic Development Corporation's Business Development Program in support of the project.

### **LJ, Inc. Locating a New Manufacturing Operation in Venice Township**

LJ, Inc. has selected Venice Township as the location of their new manufacturing operation. Just off the I-69 interchange, the new location will house the production of cutting-edge autonomous dredge equipment. The project was supported by a \$2.5M Business Development Program grant by the Michigan Economic Development Corporation.

### **Multiple Shiawassee County Firms Receive Technology Grants from Michigan Manufacturing Technology Center**

Several area businesses received funding to implement new production technologies as part of the Industry 4.0 initiative from the MMTC. Awardees included Great Lakes Fusion, Webcor Packaging, Feighner Boat Lifts & Docks, Al-Par Peat, and Owosso Graphic Arts. MMTC is an organization dedicated to supporting Michigan manufacturers to work smarter, to compete and to prosper.



### **Lifetime Metal Sales Builds New Facility in Perry Township**

Lifetime Metal Sales, a manufacturer of metal roofing and siding for the construction industry based in Rosebush, selected Perry Township as the location of their new expansion. The 25,000 square foot facility will house both sales and manufacturing functions for the company as they continue to grow.

*Pictured left: Lifetime Metal Sales breaks ground for their new factory in Perry Township.*

## Workforce Development

### Shiawassee Regional Education Service District Launches New College and Career Readiness Center

Following the approval of a new county-wide millage in August of 2022, Shiawassee RESD acquired and made substantial updates to the former Nellie Reed Elementary School in the Village of Vernon. By the beginning of the 2023-2024 school year, the facility was hosting students from across Shiawassee County in classes including Health Academy, Teaching Cadet, Public Safety, and Electrical.



*Community leaders gather with Shiawassee RESD staff to celebrate the opening of the College & Career Readiness Center.*

### SEDP Collaborates With Regional Partners to Conduct Childcare Market Needs Assessment

Thanks to regional grant funding, SEDP was able to work with economic development partners in Genesee, Lapeer, St Clair, Huron, Tuscola, and Sanilac Counties to complete a region-wide evaluation of childcare needs. This data is being used in support of future childcare attraction projects.

### Memorial Childcare Academy Offers Childcare For 140 More Area Children

Memorial Healthcare, in partnership with CrossPointe Kids, opened a new childcare facility in August of 2023. The new facility provides much needed capacity to the childcare sector in Shiawassee County. The center can provide care for infants through age 12 and offers a safe environment with educational curriculum, secure drop-off and pick-up, and meals and snacks planned by a Registered Dietician.

## Real Estate Development

### With SEDP serving as a programmatic manager, the Shiawassee County Land Bank had several successes throughout 2023

- In partnership with the State Land Bank Authority, the Shiawassee County Land Bank Authority secured funding to demolish blighted properties in the Village of Lennon on Oak St and Lennon Rd as well as the former Simplicity building at 209 S Oak St in the City of Durand with additional projects ongoing through 2024
- Working with two housing developers to construct 30 new units on two different land bank properties in the City of Owosso
- Completed a market study to identify housing needs in Shiawassee County



*Representatives of the Shiawassee County Land Bank and Village of Lennon celebrate successful funding of Blight Elimination projects.*

## 2023 Scorecard



Metric	Goal	Actual
Business Development		
Existing Business Engagements	150	228
Projects w/ 5% Job Creation and/or Capital Investment	15	16
New Business Prospects	30	133
Prospects in Target Sectors	20	115
New Business Starts	5	6
Workforce Development		
Workforce Engagements	100	108
Real Estate Development		
Real Estate Projects	30	78